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MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE OF 25 BELIEVED ARRESTED

PY240204 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0047 GMT 24 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Apr (NA)--Almost all members of the Committee of 25 left the National Labor Relations Directorate tonight, presumably under arrest, after reaffirming their decision to hold a day of protest next Friday. More than 20 leaders spent approximately 3 hours at the Labor Directorate and then left for an unknown destination in cars, accompanied by plainclothesmen.

Earlier Summons

PY240030 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1825 GMT 23 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Apr (NA)--All members of the Committee of 25 have been summoned by the national labor relations director, Emilio Daireaux. The committee has ordered a "day of national protest" for Friday, 27 April, and the National Labor Relations Directorate is the department of the Labor Ministry that deals with implementation of labor laws. According to reports, the meeting will be held on the fifth floor at 768 Moreno St at 1830.

Labor Ministry Warning

PY240036 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2128 GMT 23 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Apr (NA)--The following communique was released by the Labor Ministry tonight:

"In view of news media reports that the self-styled 'Committee of 25' has issued a communique urging a stoppage of activities on 27 April, the Labor Ministry informs the population that should this prove to be true, it can be viewed only as an irresponsible attitude clearly contrary to Decree No 9/76 of the military junta and is liable for punishment under Law No 21,400.

"The Labor Ministry has already adopted the appropriate measures within its field of action.

"The national government is not prepared to tolerate behavior that seeks openly to hamper the attainment of the objectives established by the process of national reorganization, and will act as forcefully as is required by the situation."

NO POLITICAL DETAINEES, JUSTICE MINISTRY SAYS

PY240119 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2000 GMT 23 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Apr (TELAM)--Clarifying recent press reports, the Justice Ministry stated this afternoon that "there are no political detainees in Argentina and that those persons deprived of their freedom are submitted to the authority of competent judges." The following is the text of a communique issued by the ministry:

"Regarding recent press reports, the Justice Ministry wants to make it clear that there are no political detainees in the Argentine Republic, and that those persons deprived of their freedom are either submitted to the authority of competent judges, or are under arrest by virtue of Article 23 of the Constitution because of their involvement in subversive activities."

FOURTH NATIONAL COMMUNIST CONGRESS CONCLUDES

PY240307 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Apr 79 PY

[Text] The fourth national congress of the Bolivian Communist Party [PCB] concluded today with a political and artistic program after several days of discussions at the Novedades Theater in La Paz. According to members of the PCB Executive Committee, the congress marks the beginning of a new stage of work for the PCB, which has confirmed its decision to strive for national liberation.

It has been reported that other communist parties of the world have sent messages to the congress stating their unalterable solidarity in the struggle against imperialism, reiterating their support for the PCB's cause of strengthening national sovereignty, democratizing social and political life and promoting the workers' rights.

The PCB leaders noted that the PCB seeks to promote a democratic alternative as a vanguard of the Bolivian working class because communist parties have won a place of honor for the themselves among democratic forces in the world.

They asserted that the results of the fourth congress will be a major contribution to strengthening the party's influence through cooperation with all progressive forces of the nation. A resolution urges full solidarity with the communist struggle to demand compliance with the fundamental rights of the workers and an end to the exploitation of the Bolivian people by international and national monopolies.

SILES SALINAS SAYS HE SEES DEMOCRACY EMERGING

PY231542 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0001 GMT 22 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpts] La Paz, 21 Apr (LATIN)--The former Bolivian president and current presidential candidate, Luis Adolfo Siles Salinas, expressed his conviction that "Latin America will return to the system of democratic governments after a decade of military governments." Siles Salinas made this remark during a press conference given just after the coalition that has nominated him, the Social Progress of the Left [Avance Social de Izquierda], and registered his name so he can participate in the 1 July elections.

The presidential candidate is of the opinion that "there is a new atmosphere emerging in Latin America, a new atmosphere of democracy. Costa Rica and Venezuela are examples of the consolidation of democracy."

Siles Salinas, 53, a lawyer, was the last constitutional president of Bolivia.

Siles Salinas said, "we have great hopes that the military regimes in Latin America will come to an end. We hope this will occur in Peru and Ecuador. A strong democracy is being forged in Brazil. And above all we hope democracy will be installed in Bolivia. Siles Salinas has been one of the strongest defenders of human rights and one of the firmest opponents of Banzer during that presidency.

BRIEFS

NEW TRAINING PLANES--The military aviation school at Santa Cruz is to receive six Swiss turboprop training planes next week. [La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Apr 79 PY]

MUNICIPAL, STATE EMPLOYEES STRIKE CONTINUES

PY240310 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 23 Apr 79 p 5 PY

[Excerpts] Sao Paulo--Meetings of groups of municipal and state employees are scheduled for today. The general strike command of municipal employees has reported that the strike as of last week involved 15,000 teachers, 5,500 hospital physicians and employees, 1,200 employees of the Social Welfare Coordination Office, 1,000 health clinics, 2,000 clerks in several agencies, and 5,000 employees in various state secretariats.

Employees of the secretariats of Education, Health and Agriculture joined the strike last week, and about 3,600 state schools have suspended activities.

The following institutions are on strike in the health area: Clincs Hospital, Emilio Ribas Hospital, Municipal Public Servants Hospital, Juqueri Psychiatric Hospital, North Zone Children's Hospital, Candido Fontoura Hospital, Butanta Institute, Pasteur Institute, Adolfo Lutz Institute and Dante Panzzanese Cardiology Institute.

Metalworkers' Stand

PY240355 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 23 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpts] Luis Ignacio da Silva, [president of the Sao Bernardo Metallurgical Workers Union] has again talked to the metalworkers. He said the new proposals presented by the employers have not been accepted and another strike may take place. [begin relay]

Lula [Ignacio da Silva] then talked with the Radio Bandeirantes team about the reaction of the workers on learning about the new proposals presented by the employers: [Ignacio da Silva] What I could sense from the workers is that they are more enthusiastic than ever and are ready to fight more than ever, and I think only a salary increase will avoid another strike and will return activities to normal.

[Question] Lula, according to representatives of the employers at the negotiations, the proposals presented by the employers imply that negotiations are closed.

[Answer] Well, we are calm. We have a 45-day period until 11 May. On 13 May, Sunday, we will hold an assembly, and until then we will remain calm. There will be no strike until then, and the employers must [words indistinct] or the workers will adopt a new position or begin a new strike. [end relay]

Teachers Strike in Brasilia

PY231638 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1401 GMT 23 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 23 Apr (LATIN)--Approximately 13,000 teachers from the grade and high school sectors began a strike here today for an unspecified period. They are demanding better wages. The measure was adopted during a general assembly at which the leaders of the teachers of the Federal District reported that the Education Secretariat had rejected their economic demands.

The teachers of the Federal District are demanding a 65-percent increase, establishment of a basic salary equivalent to four minimum salaries, quarterly readjustments and a 40-hour week.

ENERGY MINISTER EXPECTS PURCHASE OF ANGOLAN OIL

PY211753 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 21 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals has announced in Brasilia that Brazil may purchase petroleum from Angola, and that they may sign other agreements on petroleum, such as on cooperation in training programs, and risk contracts under which PETROBRAS will explore for petroleum in Angola.

Cals said Brazil has great interest in Angolan petroleum because its quality is similar to that of Bahia State and, therefore, it can be processed easily in Brazilian refineries. Furthermore, in view of the short distance between the two countries, freight costs will be quite cheap.

Angolan Minister

PY231621 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 20 Apr 79 p 18 PY

[Excerpts] Brasilia--Itamaraty announced yesterday that Angolan Minister of Petroleum Jorge de Morais will arrive in Brasila 5 May for an official 15-day visit, during which he will discuss the sale of Angolan petroleum to Brazil. The visits of three other ministers from socialist countries, including China, were also announced.

The Brazilian Foreign Ministry Spokesman, Fernando Pericas, stated yesterday that Jorge de Morais is coming to meet with Brazilian officials from the Mines and Energy Ministry, from PETROBRAS and from Itamaraty, and to discuss the form of marketing of Angolan petroleum, the sale of this petroleum to Brazil and the training of Angolan technical personnel in Brazil for research in petroleum.

BRIEFS

NEW ARMY OFFICIALS--Gen Mario Silva O'Reilly de Souza was sworn in today as director general of the army's Economic and Finance Department, replacing Gen Francisco de Matos Jr, who was appointed deputy chief of the army staff. Maj Gen Delio Barbosa Leite was sworn in today as deputy chief of the Army Communications and Engineering Department, replacing Gen Benedito Maia Pinto de Almeida, who was appointed chief of the army's Materiel Department. [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 18 Apr 79 PY]

MULTIREGIONAL NEWSPAPER--Rio de Janeiro, 18 Apr (AFP)--The first multiregional Latin American newspaper will go into circulation on 26 April 1979 at UN Headquarters in New York. The newspaper, the LATIN AMERICAN DAILY POST, will be printed in Sao Paulo and will be distributed the same day to 14 countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, the United States, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela. The paper is owned by Sao Marcelo publications, which in turn is owned by journalist and publisher Mauro Salles. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1358 GMT 18 Apr 79 PY]

CUBILLOS DISCUSSES RELATIONS WITH U.S., NEIGHBORS

PY192229 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos has said that relations with other countries improved considerably last year. Tomorrow will mark a year since Cubillos took over the Foreign Ministry. The minister referred during a press conference to the achievements made and to the (?contingency situations). He mentioned reports of an alleged chilling of relations with the United States with regard to the recommendations made by prosecutor Gustavo Chamorro to reject the extradition of three Chilean officers.

[Begin Cubillos recording] [Words indistinct] legal proceedings are continuing and still more remains to be done. I am not going to make a statement until a final decision has been made by the Supreme Court. [Words indistinct] However, considering press reports reportedly from the United States, I would like to say again that the two governments, the United States and Chile, have stated that they have confidence in the Chilean judicial branch, its autonomy, independence and traditional diligence. When the United States chose the judicial channel provided by the extradition treaty, it recognized the jurisdiction of our Supreme Court to deal with the matter. [end recording]

With regard to relations with neighboring countries, Cubillos was clear and precise.

[Begin recording] Relations with Argentina are normal. There is a growing relaxation of relations since the pending problem is now in the hands of a mediator and the two governments are engaged in improving bilateral relations as much as possible believing that by doing this, it will help the success of the negotiations. Relations with Peru are normal. Relations with Bolivia do not exist. There are always ways to improve relations and the Foreign Ministry intends to make as much progress as possible in this area. [end recording]

Wrong Path to Sea Outlet

PY202235 Paris AFP in Spanish 0432 GMT 20 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 19 Apr (AFP)--Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos stated here today that Bolivia has chosen the wrong approach in its quest for an outlet to the sea by seeking the solution for its problem in international forums. Chile has no pending commitments to Bolivia. Bolivia has a desire--not the right--to have an outlet to the sea, Cubillos said.

Cubillos was further asked if he will attend the meeting of OAS foreign ministers which will be held in Bolivia this year. To this he answered: "There is still some time before that... besides heights do not suit me at all."

Firm Defense of Sovereignty

PY202236 Paris AFP in Spanish 0414 GMT 20 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 19 Apr (AFP)--It was reported here today that Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos stated that in the border problem with Argentina, Chile plans to firmly defend what belongs to it. "I believe that having experienced the manner in which this and other governments have defended sovereignty, the Chileans can feel at ease," Cubillos said upon being interviewed by the daily EL MERCURIO on his first anniversary as foreign minister.

Asked about the duration of the mediation, Cubillos said: "I do not believe it will last months or years, but rather something in between. However, this is not up to us alone."

With regard to current Chilean-Argentine relations, Cubillos said he is satisfied with their trend. "I believe that both countries are interested in improving bilateral relations as much as possible because it would help the mediation," Cubillos indicated.

SAMORE'S APPOINTMENT AS MEDIATOR VIEWED FAVORABLY

PY240343 Paris AFP in Spanish 0041 GMT 24 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, 23 Apr (AFP)--It was reported here today that the Chilean Foreign Ministry views favorably the appointment of Cardinal Antonio Samore as the "pope's official delegate" to mediate in the Chilean-Argentine conflict over the Beagle Channel. The appointment of Cardinal Samore was confirmed here by the holy see's apostolic nunciature. Foreign Ministry sources have viewed Samore's appointment with satisfaction "because the prelate has contributed decisively to solving dangerously tense situations."

2-DAY HUNGER STRIKE IN SUPPORT OF DETAINEES

PY231649 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2010 GMT 20 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 20 Apr (LATIN)--A spokesman of the episcopate revealed today that 35 persons, three of them nuns, began a hunger strike here in solidarity for 63 persons, relatives of missing persons, who were detained for creating disorders in the street during a demonstration last Wednesday. The source told LATIN that the strike will last 48 hours during which prayers will be made to soften hearts in support of justice.

The hunger strike began at 1930 yesterday in the Salvador Basilica in a residential area of this capital after being authorized by the vicariate of the central sector, Msgr Sergio Uribe. The spokesman explained that this strike is not of a political nature but aimed at achieving through prayers the release of the arrested.

SECURITY OFFICER KILLED DEFUSING BOMB

PY232323 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpts] A security officer died this morning when attempting to disarm an explosive device in northwestern Santiago. The incident took place while the officer was attempting to deactivate the time mechanism of an explosive device placed by extremist elements in front of the National Health Service. This is the first time a security officer has died while performing his duty.

BRIEFS

COSTA RICAN OFFICIAL--The Costa Rican Under Secretary for Foreign Relations Bernd Niehaus Quezada is visiting Chile with the aim of strengthening the cordial relations between the two countries. He said that the Costa Rican foreign minister plans to visit Chile some time this year. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Apr 79 PY]

PROFESSOR EXPELLED--The Interior Ministry reported that university Professor Nimia Jaque was expelled from the country and left for Caracas, Venezuela, at 1115 today. She is accused of being a courier of the Communist Party. She was also warned that she will not be allowed to return to Chile. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Apr 79 PY]

COPPER MINE REACTIVATED--The (?La Exotica) copper mine will resume activities beginning next January. It was reactivated when the Mining and Metallurgical Research Center created a system to produce copper at lower costs. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 Apr 79 PY]

PRESIDENT CONFIRMS MOVE FOR POLITICAL 'REOPENING'

FY232356 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1807 GMT 21 Apr 79 FY

[Text] Montevideo, 21 Apr (LATIN)--President Aparicio Mendez has said that his civilian-military government intends to begin a political reopening, but warned that this will be done "carefully, so as not to repeat the past, because we want democracy, but without professional politicians."

The chief of state made these remarks yesterday in Mercedes, where he was heading a government delegation, including high-ranking military officers, to dedicate a new rail line and to meet with local officials and representatives of the region.

Mendez referred to conditions which should prevail in the country in order to return it to institutionality. He said "new elections do not mean the end of the process." The chief of state added: "The decisions to be made do not mean a return to the past--a past which should remain as a regrettable and painful memory in the history of the country."

The government announced some time ago that elections will be held in 1981 in accordance with the process of returning to institutionality, with a single candidate emerging from the two traditional political parties (Blanco and Colorado) and with the approval of the armed forces.

In his speech in Mercedes, Mendez said that if the country "found an appropriate solution, we would all return home, the civilians to their homes and the military to their barracks." He emphasized that the path to reopening should be followed carefully to prevent mistakes. He said: "There are countries which made a quick reopening, and they are paying for it."

Mendez made a thorough analysis of the country's economic aspects, its international relations and future plans. He said that if it were not for the oil problem the country would be in a good economic position. The Uruguayan president said: "If we did not have to confront the contingencies of the oil situation, Uruguay would be at the highest peak of its economic history, because we have never had the order that exists today among the economic, financial, monetary and credit leadership in the country."

BRIEFS

DAM, IRRIGATION PROJECTS--Montevideo, 18 Apr (AFP)--The Brazilian-Uruguayan mixed commission is studying the possibility of obtaining financial resources for construction of the Talavera and Centurion dams over the Yaguaron River and a reservoir for irrigation. The cost of the two dams will be approximately $200 million. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1415 GMT 18 Apr 79 FY]

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON TALKS WITH CUBA

FL231851 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Mexico City--Cuban and Mexican deputies have agreed on the need for a new international economic order and multilateral relations based on mutual respect, independence, sovereignty and self-determination of peoples. In a joint communique signed today on the occasion of the visit to Mexico by a Cuban delegation headed by Deputy Jose Aranaburo, National Peoples Government Assembly. The parliamentarians of the two countries also agreed on the need to establish institutionalized bilateral parliamentary relations.

They admitted that the current economic crisis, with its resultant serious social and political deteriorations, especially in underdeveloped countries, is a problem requiring the uniting of efforts of peoples in the world in the search for, and establishment of, a new economic order.

The Cuban delegation, which also includes Deputy Aleida Marche de la Torre, president of Cuban National Assembly Foreign Affairs Commission, visited Mexico from 16 to 23 April. The Cuban deputies were received by Standing Committee Chairman Rodolfo Gonzalez Guevara, Raul Lemus Garcia, Jesus Puente Leyva Hector Teran Torres and others.

The Cuban legislators emphasized that Cuban foreign policy has as its starting point the subordination of Cuban interests to international needs in the struggle for socialism and the national liberation of peoples. They believe that, in order to carry out this international policy, an alliance of progressive and anti-imperialist forces in Asia, Africa and Latin America working for national liberation, peace and the democratic progress of humanity must be achieved, among other objectives.

The Cuban delegation expressed its satisfaction that these cordial talks coincided with the 18th anniversary of the Cuban people's victory over the imperialist invasion forces. They also paid tribute to Mexico, which has maintained its traditional friendship since the days of the outstanding patriot Benito Juarez and which former President Lazaro Cardenas maintained on a historic occasion.

The Cuban parliamentary declaration also emphasized that the philosophical and political differences between the Cuban and Mexican societies are not obstacles to dialog but rather motives for frank interest and a propitious situation for profound cooperation which is reciprocally beneficial.

Earlier Discussion

PA201407 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0847 GMT 20 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 20 Apr (EFE)--Cuban and Mexican parliamentarians have met in the the Chamber of Deputies here to exchange views on their legislative systems. Rodolfo Gonzalez Guevara headed the Mexican deputies who participated in this meeting held Thursday in this capital.

The Cuban parliamentary delegation was composed of Jose Aranaburo Garcia, secretary of the Cuban National Peoples Government Assembly, and Aleida March de la Torre, chairman of the Assembly Foreign Relations Committee.

The Cuban legislators received an extensive briefing on the law on political organizations and electoral processes [ley de organizaciones political y procesos electorales], instrumental in the political reform being conducted in Mexico.

The visiting assemblymen visited the Tabasco oilfields in southeastern Mexico on Wednesday and today will visit the Lazaro Cardenas steel industry complex west of Mexico City, after which they will return to Cuba.

OFFICIALS TO MEET FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING

PA210437 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0315 GMT 21 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Patrimony and Industrial Development Secretary Jose Andres Fernandez De Oteyza and Mexican Petroleum Director Jorge Diaz Serrano will meet with President Valery Giscard d'Estaing in Paris on Tuesday. During their stay, they will discuss French-Mexican economic relations and the implementation of the industrial agreements signed during President Giscard's visit to Mexico last month with French Industry Minister Andre Giraud and other officials.

IRAN'S WARNING NOT TO ADMIT SHAH REJECTED

PA232345 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2237 GMT 23 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 23 Apr (EFE)--The Mexican Government today rejected a warning by the new Iranian regime regarding the possibility of permitting Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, the former shah of Iran, to enter the country.

Mexico, the Foreign Secretariat explained, "does not accept warnings or suggestions by any government to deny or grant entry visas to Mexican territory." The Iranian Foreign Ministry warned Mexico and the United States on Sunday that allowing the shah to enter would be considered a "hostile" act against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

A Foreign Secretariat spokesman said he did not know if the toppled shah and his family intended to establish themselves in Mexico, but noted that Mexico is completely free to grant visas of any kind. He added that, in any event, the shah will be given a 3-month tourist visa which can be extended.

The shah owns a fabulous home in the summer port of Acapulco, 411 km southwest of here. He is currently in the Bahamas awaiting, it is said, residency permits for Mexico or the United States.

PRESIDENT ROYO DISCUSSES UPCOMING TRIP TO U.S.

PA240118 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2043 GMT 23 Apr 79 PA

[By Francisco Rubiales]

[Excerpts] Panama City, 23 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Panamanian President Aristides Royo today said that on 10 May he will meet with President Jimmy Carter in Washington to ask that the terms of the Torrijos-Carter treaties be complied with.

He said that he will tell President Carter of Panama's concerns and that Panama is expecting the terms of the Torrijos-Carter treaties to be carried out as signed. Royo will visit Washington on 10 May on his way back from a tour to England, Spain, Italy and France, which he will begin on 26 April.

Royo made these statements a few minutes after he had exchanged messages with King Juan Carlos I of Spain through the international services of EFE, which has opened a new office in Panama City. President Royo indicated that the Canal treaties "were never popular in the United States and that there are people in that country who believe that the House of Representatives can stop the treaties."

All Panamian sectors, especially the popular sectors, are deeply concerned over the amendments and criticism that the House of Representatives is making to the Torrijos-Carter treaties which were ratified and signed by the two countries. Despite the concern, President Royo said: "We trust that the United States will make good its word given to and approved with Panama in the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

When asked if he believed that President Carter, whose popularity is presently low, could pressure Congress to respect the terms of the treaties signed with Panama, President Royo said: "President Carter has a series of mechanisms which he can and must resort to for the implementation of the treaties."

"But by all means, we will enter the Canal Zone on 1 October," President Royo asserted.

U.S. Trip 'Not Definite'

PA240125 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 23 Apr 79 PA

[Text] While President Aristides Royo told ACAN-EFE that he will meet with President Jimmy Carter on the matter of U.S. compliance with the terms of the treaties, he told Televisora Nacional that his trip to Washington is not definite. However, President Royo has promised to talk about his trip and other issues tomorrow during his visit to Colon.

Upcoming Trip to Spain

PA240122 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2057 GMT 23 Apr 79 PA

[By Francisco Rubiales]

[Text] Panama City, 23 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Panamanian President Aristides Royo said today that Spain has given the world a lesson in civic spirit and culture by emerging from its former state and building democracy without undergoing a traumatic process.

In statements made at EFE offices in Panama City shortly before exchanging a message with King Juan Carlos I of Spain over EFE's international lines, Royo said that this demonstrates that the Spanish people had political ability and needed only to exercise it.

The Panamanian president will arrive in Spain on 27 April for a lengthy visit, the main points of which will include visits to Madrid, where official ceremonies will be held; Salamanca, where the Panamanian president completed law school; and Asturias, where the president's wife, Adela Ruiz de Royo, was born.

The Panamanian president noted that this will be the first visit made by a Panamanian president to Spain in many years and is probably the second such visit since World War II. He said that the main purpose of the visit is simply to become acquainted with the king and queen, to talk with Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez and to discuss commercial and friendly relations between the two countries. "I will also meet at some time with Felipe Gonzalez, who is a great friend of mine," President Royo said.

The president noted that when Panama broke relations with the United States in 1964, Spain was the first country to respond to a Panamanian request by making available an open line of credit without requiring guarantees or endorsements. The president added that he would also talk with Spanish authorities about the Torrijos-Carter treaties and Panama's position regarding those international agreements.

Asked about the present political situation in Spain, the Panamanian president said: "I never doubted that Spain would emerge from its past situation. It is doing so with great civic spirit, with a great sense of culture and in a civilized fashion. It serves as an example. This shows that the people had political ability and needed only to exercise it."

In the course of the interview, President Aristides Royo expressed his country's desire to expand, if possible, the currently close relations with Spain. The Panamanian president will arrive in Madrid on the morning of 27 April. On that same evening, he will dine with the monarchs of Spain and the members of the Spanish Government.

FIRST PRISONERS RELEASED BY CASTRO ADMITTED

PA240221 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 23 Apr 79 PA

[Text] The first nine former prisoners released by Fidel Castro and six members of their families arrived today in Panama. These are part of the 250 Cuban prisoners to whom Panama and Venezuela have agreed to grant asylum from the 900 total prisoners Castro plans to release.

GOVERNMENT DECISION ON CERRO COLORADO SOUGHT

PA240152 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 23 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Some 2,000 demonstrators assembled this morning along the Pan-American Highway in San Felix, Chiriqui Province, and threatened to paralyze all activities in the province if the government does not come up with a decision within a month regarding the ecological effects that the Cerro Colorado copper mine will have on the province.

BELIZE

'MOST DECIDED' SUPPORT SOUGHT FROM MEXICO

PA232320 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2221 GMT 23 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 23 Apr (EFE)--Belizean Premier George Price asked Mexico for its "most decided" support for the territory's independence in an interview published here today by the local newspaper EXCELSIOR.

In the interview, Price accused Guatemala of promoting actions aimed at destabilizing his government and admitted the possibility of his overthrow exists. The Belizean leader supported a "security agreement" or defense pact between Great Britain and other "friendly countries" to guarantee that Belize will not be invaded by Guatemala following its independence.

Price termed "intransigent and aggressive" Guatemala's attitude toward Belize and accused the Guatemalan Government of siding with the Belizean opposition to terrorize the people of the territory with threats of war. He noted, however, that the Belizean people's desire for independence has increased, as has their fear as a result of the "psychological war" which he said Guatemala has unleashed.

He charged Guatemala with stepping up its arms purchases and said that Belize has 1,000 soldiers, which are few in the face of "the growing military power of Guatemala."

Regarding Mexico's support, Price recognized that this country has offered "great support" to Belize, but added that it could be increased considering "the great and oil-rich country that it is."

COSTA RICA

NO GUERRILLA POCKET FOUND AT OROZI RANCH

PA221217 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Although the guerrilla pocket reported by the Somozist National Guard to the OAS civilian observers was not found at the Orozi Ranch as charged, the cleanup operation has not concluded. The Orozi Ranch is located near the border. The public security minister had to honor the OAS request to send 200 men to the location the night before last but no suspicious movements have been detected in the area since then.

The security minister said this afternoon that the area in question was patrolled by air and land but no signs of the guerrilla group were found. The minister said that possibly the concern of the Nicaraguans was due to the fact that they saw or learned about movements in the area possibly during the Holy Week. He said that it was probably because of the unusual movement of people who were taken advantage of the holidays to go on trips.

OIJ DISMANTLES REVOLUTIONARY GROUP

PA210410 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Apr 79 PA

[Text] The Judicial Investigation Organization [OIJ] claims that it dismantled a guerrilla group which was being formed. The alleged revolutionaries were starting operations in the southern region and were planning to go to Nicaragua.

OIJ official spokesmen said this afternoon that OIJ agents in Neily City dismantled a small revolutionary group which was being formed and which had to resort to illegal funds in order to finance its operations.

It was reported that two Nicarguan citizens--Enrique Largaespada Flores, 24 years of age, known as Donald, and Luis Valle Gonzalez, whose age was not established--were arrested as alleged founders of the revolutionary group.

According to OIJ investigations in Neily City, Largaespada Flores and Valle Gonzalez were planning to rob La Moda Store in order to get money to go to Nicaragua to fight the regime of Gen Anastasio Somoza. The two Nicaraguans lived in the home of the Fernandez Rios family. They had become friends with the Fernandez' daughters, whom they had enlisted in their small revolutionary group.

Largaespada must appear before the Neily City Court on charges of attempted robbery while Valle will be placed under the custody of the immigration authorities for the corresponding action.

EL SALVADOR

ROMERO BACKS CARAZO'S OIL IMPORTING BODY

PA240050 Paris AFP in Spanish 2224 GMT 23 Apr 79 PA

[Text] San Jose, 23 Apr (AFP)--Salvadoran President Gen Carlos Humberto Romero said in an interview published here today that he is in favor of a meeting of Central American chiefs of state to discuss the reorganization of the region's Common Market. Romero also reiterated his hope that a peace agreement will be reached by his country and Honduras. In July, it will have been 10 years since the two nations were involved in an armed conflict.

The Salvadoran president expressed concern over the reduction in the price of coffee on international markets and said that he supports Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo's proposal to create an organization of oil-importing countries. Romero said that El Salvador will soon import oil from Mexico, a matter which he recently discussed personally with President Lopez Portillo.

Regarding charges that his government has violated human rights, Romero denied that there is repression in El Salvador and accused leftist groups of disturbing the country's peace by exploiting the great popular demand for employment, housing and a better standard of living.

BRIEFS

DENGUE CASES--Zacatecoluca--Serious cases of dengue have been reported in this city since a few days before Holy Week. Residents report that several persons have died from the disease. They have stressed that the Health Ministry's campaign against the mosquito which transmits dengue has not been effective. [San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 18 Apr 79 p 26 PA]

HONDURAS

HANDLING OF AGRARIAN REFORM CRITICIZED

PA232349 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2125 GMT 23 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 23 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Honduras' peasant organizations on Monday launched a wave of criticism of the manner in which the military government is managing the agrarian reform process, which has been underway for the past 17 years.

Antonio Julin Mendez, president of the Cooperative Program of the National Association of Honduran Peasants (ANACH), said that "the agrarian reform process, which has been described as the military government's primary task, has stagnated."

He said that the large landholdings are intact and that a few families continue to be the beneficiaries of the country's agricultural activities to the detriment of 70 percent of the rural population.

For his part, Victor Inocencio Peralta, assistant secretary general of the Christian Socialist National Union of Peasants (UNC), expressed sentiments similar to those voiced by Mendez during a meeting with newsmen.

"The agrarian reform process has burned out," he said. "We (of the UNC) remain on the boards of directors of certain programs, because it is better to fight from within than to isolate oneself outside."

Peralta said that the UNC is waiting for the government to make the political decision to expropriate 17,000 hectares of land, for which the corresponding decrees have been ready since last year. He added that unless the government takes action to fully implement the law, "the peasant organizations could resort to methods of pressure which would undoubtedly lead to the takeover of lands."

Peralta also criticized cattlemen who have requested revision of the agrarian law and government officials who have been receptive to the request.

NICARAGUA

MPU YOUTHS TAKE OVER BUILDING IN MANAGUA

PA202316 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2108 GMT 20 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 20 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--A group of the United People's Movement (MPU) Youth Commission took over a building in the "Bolonia" residential area in this capital today. The WHO and Pan-American Health Organization offices are located in the building.

The MPU youth began a 24-hour action to protest a number of incidents within the unsettling national situation. The group is protesting the closure of Radio Corporacion and the Extra Newscast.

According to huge banners they hung over the front of the building, the group is also protesting the deterioration of the economic crisis resulting from the cordoba devaluation. The sit-in also marks the first anniversary of the killing of three workers by militarymen in a neighborhood in the western part of the capital.

They are also demanding the release of dozens of youths who were recently arrested and the cessation of repression in Esteli, a northern Nicaraguan city where violent fighting occurred during Holy Week between Sandinist Front guerrillas and National Guardsmen.

The youths who occupied the building said that so far they have not encountered any problems due to their action. They added that they cordially talked with the WHO official here, Richard Copedge, to whom they explained the reasons for taking over the building.

MALMIERCA ANNOUNCES FIDEL CASTRO TO VISIT SPAIN 'SOON'

PA221458 Paris AFP in Spanish 1324 GMT 22 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Madrid, 22 Apr (AFP)--Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca said in Madrid today that Cuban President Fidel Castro will probably visit Spain "soon." The foreign minister made the statement during a stopover at the Barajas-Madrid airport on his way from Havana to Vienna. Malmierca did not give any additional information, but it is believed that Castro will visit Spain in June. During his stay in Spain, Fidel Castro will visit Galicia, a region where his family originated and where several of his relatives still live.

MALMIERCA ARRIVES IN VIENNA FOR OFFICAL VISIT

FL232145 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2132 GMT 23 Apr 79 FL

[Excerpts] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca today arrived in Vienna, the Austrian capital, for a 4-day official visit at the invitation of his Austrian counterpart, Willibald Pahr, who received Malmierca at Schwechat Airport. Malmierca, the first Cuban foreign minister to make an official visit to Austria in the history of the two countries, begins his activities in Vienna tomorrow with a tour of the International Center of Conferences built on the shores of the Danube River on the outskirts of the Austrian capital. The center will be inaugurated in August, and its function is to be the headquarters of several UN organizations, including thoseon atomic energy and industrial development.

Following his visit to that center, known as UN City, Malmierca will be received by Austrian President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger and shortly thereafter by Federal Parliament President Anton Benya. At noon tomorrow, Tuesday, the Cuban foreign minister and his delegation will be the guests of honor at a luncheon hosted by Foreign Minister Willibald Pahr at (Palavichini) Palace. Malmierca will also visit the Altenwoerth power plant on the Danube River, the (Goettweig) Monastery and the tourist center of (Duernstein).

Tuesday night, the Cuban delegation headed by Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca that is making an official visit to Vienna will have dinner at the (Eninhoff) Restaurant as guests of Austrian officials. Wednesday morning, the Cuban minister and his delegation will hold a working meeting of several hours at the Austrian Foreign Ministry. Malmierca will be received at noon Wednesday by Austrian Federal Chancellor and Chief of Government Bruno Kreisky. Thereafter, he will visit (Schombrung) Palace, which served as the residence of Austrian emperors.

The Cuban foreign minister will host a dinner Wednesday night in honor of his Austrian counterpart Willibald Pahr. Malmierca will visit Vienna's Museum of Fine Arts on Thursday morning and then will hold a press conference and leave Austria after lunch.

RODRIGUEZ LLOMPART RECEIVED BY IRAN'S BAZARGAN, YAZDI

FL231448 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1402 GMT 23 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Mehdi Bazargan, prime minister of Iran, today received in a special audience in Tehran Cuban Minister Hector Rodriguez Llompart, who is carrying a personal message from Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Council of State. The 1-hour long audience was also attended by Ebrahim Yazdi, deputy prime minister for Iranian revolutionary affairs, and Giraldo Mazola, director of the Cuban Foreign Ministry North Africa and Middle East Department.

At the meeting the Cuban minister stated that Cuba supports, admires and respects the Iranian revolutionary process, and that Cuba backs the Iranian petition to join the nonalined countries movement. This past March 1979, Iran announced its desire to join this movement, whose sixth chiefs of state and government summit will be held in September 1979 in Havana.

Mehdi Bazargan and Ebrahim Yazdi, Iranian prime minister and deputy prime minister, respectively, have sent friendly greetings to the Cuban people, government and Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers. The special audience meeting between Bazargan and Cuban Minister Hector Rodriguez Llompart dealt with questions of bilateral relations between the two countries, relations which were broken in 1975 by the shah. Bazargan and Yazdi said they were in favor of developing relations with countries that are members of the nonalined movement and developing bilateral exchanges with Cuba.

The presence of the Cuban delegation in the Iranian capital was reported in all the morning papers in Tehran, pointing out that Minister Llompart was carrying personal messages from Fidel to Bazargan and the Ayatollah Khomeyni.

FIDEL CASTRO INVITES NKOMO TO NONALINED SUMMIT

FL231941 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1932 GMT 23 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Zimbabwe Patriotic Front co-President Joshua Nkomo has received an invitation from Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Council of State, to attend the sixth summit conference of the nonalined countries movement. The invitation was delivered by Higher Education Minister Fernando Vecino Alegret, who is holding fraternal talks with the Patriotic Front leader. Vecino Alegret briefed Nkomo on preparations being made in Havana for the important conference scheduled to be held in the Cuban capital in September.

ROA KOURI DENOUNCES DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA UN ENVOY

FL240158 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0136 GMT 24 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Cuba today expressed to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim a strong protest over the improper use of UN mechanisms by the representative of the nonexistent Pol Pot regime. In a letter to Waldheim, Cuban permanent representative Ambassador Raul Roa Kouri said that the envoy of the so-called Democratic Kampuchea is using the mechanisms of that institution improperly to slander and insult several UN member states, including Cuba. It is a mockery of the truth and seriousness of this organization, Roa Kouri asserted, and the dissident representative of Democratic Kampuchea is nothing more than a paid spokesman of the new Beijing mandarins. He added that he was reaffirming in the letter the position of our government that (Thio Prasita) not be recognized as representative of any government, adds the PRENSA LATINA report.

MENDEZ MOREJON CONDEMNS TRANSNATIONAL PUBLISHING CONTROL

FL211639 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1604 GMT 21 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Cuban Deputy Luis Mendez Morejon has condemned the transnational companies' control of the publishing field for the purpose of subjugating underdeveloped countries. Mendez Morejon, member of the Cuban interparliamentary group, was speaking at the Educational, Scientific, Cultural and Environmental Affairs Committee of the World Interparliamentary Union council meeting being held in Prague, the Czechoslovak capital.

He noted that nearly 80 percent of the profits from this new industry increase the wealth of a (?few)gigantic corporations, primarily North American, such as ITT, IBM, ATT, ABC, RCA and Lockheed. Mendez Morejon said the objectives of these monopolies are quite clear and are based on a domination strategy of global scope.

Speaking at the Educational, Scientific, Cultural and Environmental Affairs Committee of the World Interparliamentary Union, Cuban Deputy Luis Mendez Morejon referred to maneuvers against the so-called Third World countries. He asserted that the use of ultra-modern computer technology and telecommunications in the hands of the transnational corporations is aimed at paralyzing the publishing industries of nations of the so-called Third World, which are swept by a wave of exports [as heard] against which they cannot compete. He indicated that publishing and linguistic control contributes decisively to dependence in knowledge. It also promotes, he added, the formation of pro-Western intellectual elite groups in the underdeveloped countries, while generating a brain drain toward the developed capitalist countries.

SUGAR INDUSTRY COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH ETHIOPIA

FL231956 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1937 GMT 23 Apr 79 FL

[Text] A PRENSA LATINA dispatch reports that Ethiopia and Cuba today reached a complementary agreement for bilateral cooperation in the field of sugar production. The agreement was signed in Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital, by Ethiopian Minister of Industry Tesfaye Dinka and Cuban Ambassador Buenaventura Reyes Acosta. The agreement calls for an exchange of experiences between the Cuban and Ethiopian sugar industries, Cuban assistance in the training of technicians and other means of cooperation.

(Hailu Shauare), director of the Ethiopian Sugar Corporation, and Ramon Soto, director of the **Africa and Asia** Department of the Cuban State Committee for Cooperation, attended the signing of the agreement, which complements the terms of a sugar industry cooperation note signed between the two countries last year.

CABRIZAS HEADS DELEGATION TO GEPLACEA MEETING

FL232157 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 23 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Buenos Aires--Cuban Vice Minister of Foreign Trade Ricardo Cabrizas Ruiz heads the Cuban delegation to the meeting of the Economic Group of Latin American and Caribbean Sugar Exporting Countries--GEPLACEA. The Cuban delegation was received at the airport by Cuban Ambassador Emilio Aragones Navarro; (Antonio Saabar), director of foreign trade of the Trade Secretariat and other officials.

CEMA SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL NUCLEAR SAFETY MEETING OPENS

FL232107 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2055 GMT 23 Apr 79 FL

[Text] A CEMA Technical-Scientific Council meeting on protection against radiation has opened in Havana with the participation of representatives from the German Democratic Republic, the USSR, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Romania, Cuba and the CEMA Secretariat. This specialized CEMA meeting on the peaceful use of nuclear energy will be held in our capital until 27 April, sponsored by the Cuban State Committee for Science and Technology.

Dr Rene Cardenas, chairman of the Cuban National Committee for the Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy, made the opening remarks.

He stressed the importance which CEMA member countries attach to safety at nuclear installations. Cardenas emphasized that the socialist community is greatly concerned with providing the greatest safety to nuclear energy workers and the people in general. Dr Cardenas further noted that CEMA member countries protect the people against the harmful effects of ionizing radiation and preserve the environment when using nuclear energy.

Cardenas added that this meeting in Havana will be of considerable importance to raise the qualification of our specialists, and that it is a great honor for our country to have been selected to host the meeting, since Cuba has undertaken the path of peaceful use of nuclear energy to develop its economy.

(B. Burhack), chairman of the CEMA Technical Scientific Council for Protection Against Radiation and chief of the German Democratic Republic State Office for Nuclear Safety, also spoke at the opening session. Others presiding over the session included Dr Bartolome Sagaro, vice president of the Cuban State Committee for Science and Technology.

CEMA AGRICULTURE, FOODSTUFFS MEETING OPENS IN HAVANA

FL231917 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1802 GMT 23 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Humberto Perez, vice president of the Council of Ministers and president of the Central Planning Board (JUCEPLAN), has opened the fifth meeting of the provisional working group that is drafting a CEMA long-term cooperation program in the fields of agriculture and foodstuffs. Delegations from Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union as well as CEMA representatives are attending the meeting being held at the Havana Libre Hotel.

During their stay in Cuba, the experts of the participating countries have toured the Ceiba citrus enterprise and the packing house for citrus exports located in that Havana Province area. They have also visited the construction site of a new sugar mill in San Cristobal, Pinar del Rio Province. Tomorrow they will visit the Jaguey citrus enterprise in Giron and the Camilo Cienfuegos sugar mill, Havana Province, where a sugar processing center is in operation.

Speaking at the fifth meeting of the provisional working group of the CEMA Planning Committee, PCC Central Committee member Humberto Perez expressed satisfaction with the decision of the CEMA Secretariat and member countries to hold the meeting in Cuba. He likewise stressed the importance of working together to find solutions that would soon lead to agreements contributing to the economic development of Cuba and Mongolia. This is of great future importance for Mongolia, he said, a country that is struggling to develop its economy and raise the standard of living of its people. It will be able to undertake proposed measures to create state farms for the production of livestock feed on the northern part of the Gobi zone and in the (Halgingol) region. For Cuba, he addded, the sugar and citrus plans will have decisive weight on the development prospects of our economy in the next 10 years.

This fifth meeting is a beautiful expression of relations between our countries, which are very different from the selfish relations that exist between capitalist countries, JUCEPLAN President Humberto Perez said. He referred to the development of thousands of hectares of citrus with tractors, fuel, fertilizers and technical assistance from the socialist countries and to the construction of new sugar mills with the assistance of these fraternal countries.

Welcoming the experts that are participating in this fifth meeting, Humberto Perez reaffirmed our government's decision to proceed with the sugar industry development plan, which represents one of the most important investment programs in the next 5-year period.

Lastly, he concluded hoping that the work done and decisions reached at the meeting will strengthen ties of cooperation and friendship even more for the benefit of the cause of socialism.

Perez Opening Remarks

FL232314 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Apr 79 FL

[Excerpt] The meeting of the working group of the CEMA Planning Committee that is drafting a long-term cooperation plan in the agriculture and foodstuffs industry opened today at the Havana Libre Hotel's Ambassadors Hall. Humberto Perez, vice president of the Council of Ministers and president of the Central Planning Board, made the opening remarks.

Perez referred to the two cooperation plans concerning our country that will be examined at the meeting. Regarding sugar production, he said Cuba will have increased production by almost 2 million metric tons by the end of the current 5-year period, and will have made a considerable improvement in farm production. He also announced that in the next 5-year period, 10 new sugar mills will be built with a production capacity exceeding 1 million tons. Referring to citrus, Perez pointed out that a considerable part of the fields--which will produce more than 2.5 million tons in 1990--has already been planted.

Reception by Rodriguez

FL232320 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, today received in Havana the chiefs of the delegations that are participating in the fifth meeting of the working group of the CEMA Planning Committee for agricultural production and the foodstuffs industry being held in this capital. During the fraternal meeting, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez briefed the visitors on the development of the Cuban economy. He also expressed the Cuban Government's satisfaction with the holding of the meeting in our country. Rodriguez wished success to the participants in their work.

CUBAN, MEXICAN HEALTH CONFERENCE OPENS IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA

FL202138 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2105 GMT 20 Apr 79 FL

[Text] The second interdisciplinary scientific meeting in the field of health between the University of Guadalajara in Jalisco, Mexico, and the Santiago de Cuba Higher Institute of Medical Sciences was inaugurated at the Cuban educational center. In his opening remarks Dr (Guillermo Esquivia), dean of medicine at the University of Guadalajara, has stated that Cuba is a country that has been able to develop its academic and health service potentials within the firm framework of socialism. He expressed his thanks for the welcome shown the Mexican delegation and stated that he hopes to gain experience in the field of community health services from this meeting.

For his part, (Daniel Jorin), permanent representative to Cuba of the Panamerican Health Organization, said that the agreements on scientific cooperation between fraternal countries progress on a secure path and that his organization sees this with satisfaction.

The closing remarks at the inaugural ceremony at the interdisciplinary scientific meeting between the University of Guadalajara and the Santiago de Cuba Higher Institute of Medical Sciences were made by Felipe Morejon, director of the health sector in Santiago de Cuba [Province].

Morejon transmitted a warm welcome to the visitors in the name of teachers at the institute and the officials at the health school in Santiago de Cuba Province.

The health sector director recounted the situation existing in this field in Cuba before the triumph of the revolution. He pointed out that the annual budget to service some 2 million inhabitants was 175,000 pesos, and that now the Province of Santiago de Cuba alone has a budget of 35 million. The purpose of the scientific meeting is to exchange experiences in training health personnel, the achievements and applications of communal medicine and study plans linked to work.

TALKS WITH YUGOSLAV PARTY OPEN IN HAVANA

FL240210 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0202 GMT 24 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Talks between representatives of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] and the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] opened this afternoon. The LCY delegation is headed by LCY Presidium member Aleksandar Grlickov, and the Cuban side is led by PCC Politburo member Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Central Committee member Lionel Soto. Certain matters on the current staus of the nonalined countries movement and on the international situation were discussed at these talks. The LCY delegation has visited the construction site of the Palace of Congresses, where the nonalined countries sixth summit conference will be held in September 1979. The delegation was received there by Construction Director (Abraham Maciques).

FIDEL CASTRO, OTHER LEADERS TOUR RED SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

FL231142 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 23 Apr 79 FL

[Text] According to reports from throughout the country, the Red Sunday to aid Vietnamese children was a success in terms of its productivity, organization and massive participation.

In a tour of this capital [Havana] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro has visited the Palace of the Congresses project site where more than 2,000 construction workers and other support groups were working. Fidel said that the work undertaken at the site was impressive. The workers at the site reaffirmed their decision to deliver the project on the date set, in time for the nonalined countries sixth summit in September 1979. In an exchange of opinions with a group of workers and a group of Vietnamese at the Palace of the Congresses, the maximum leader of the revolution also referred to the enthusiasm shown since the early morning hours on Sunday, which characterized the gigantic mobilization of hundreds of thousands of men and women.

At the [Palace of the Congresses] site, Roberto Veiga, member of the PCC Central Committee and secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers [CTC], called the extraordinary work carried out across the length and breadth of the nation a victory for solidarity and proletarian internationalism.

(Huyen Xuan Fon), second secretary of the Vietnamese Embassy in Cuba, for his part said that in addition to being a necessary contribution to his country, the Red Sunday is an encouragement to the world movement in support of Ho Chi Minh's land.

PCC Politburo members Juan Almeida and Jose Ramon Machado Ventura headed a contingent of some 800 who were mobilized from components of the PCC Central Committee, Council of State and subordinate organizations that worked at the assorted vegetables enterprise located in Guira de Melena [Municipality, Havana Province].

In his words to the press, Machado Ventura said that parallel to their solidarity with Vietnam, the people paid homage to the 109th anniversary of Lenin's birth and the 60th anniversary of the first Red Sunday in the USSR.

The unofficial preliminary total for the Havana provinces [Havana and Havana City], Cienfuegos, Granma, Santiago [de Cuba], Camaguey, Villa Clara, Ciego de Avila, Pinar del Rio and the Isle of Youth Special Municipality is figured to be above 1.2 million people.

Further Reportage

FL231644 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Apr 79 FL

[Text] On Red Sunday, our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro extensively toured several projects and production centers in Havana City and Havana Province. Fidel said that the events that took place yesterday [Sunday, 22 April] might make it the greatest of all the Red Sundays held in Cuba. On his tour Fidel was accompanied by Jose Naranjo and Rafael Francia Mestre, ministers of the food industry and agriculture, respectively, and Jose Lopez Moreno, minister of construction.

During an almost 6-hour tour that began shortly before 0800 [1200 GMT], Fidel visited the Palace of the Congresses construction site, the new cement plant in Mariel [Municipality, Havana Province], the Orlando Nodarse sugarcane mill, the Ariguanabo textile mill, the Giron bus plant in La Lisa [Municipality, Havana City] and the expansion project at the Frank Pais orthopedic hospital, also located in La Lisa Municipality.

MILIAN CASTRO PRESIDES OVER VILLA CLARA CATTLE MEETING

FL191936 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1802 GMT 19 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Arnaldo Milian Castro, member of the PCC Politburo, has made the closing remarks at the Villa Clara cattle sector review meeting for the first quarter of 1979. Milian stated that these meetings are different; we see more assurance, and we are advancing along a good path, working seriously, with optimism and enthusiasm. He said this in regard to the results of the first [3] months and in reference to [future] prospects.

The Politburo member spoke of the need to increase cattle production, saying that we believe that an 80-percent gestation rate is a good indicator; and that from 100 cows, 80 calves are born every 15 months. Arnaldo Milian said that this can be considered good work. In summing up the review meeting, the party leader referred to various aspects of the report, stating that he hopes that the most important cattle problems are resolved by next year. At the plenum held in Villa Clara, Arnaldo Milian lastly spoke of the need to increase the weight of cattle to achieve weights of 1,000 or more pounds.

For his part, Carlos Pis Delgado, first secretary in Villa Clara Province, presented an analytical report on the cattle sector in the aforementioned period [presumably first quarter of 1979] and stated that a program was launched to resolve known deficiencies The PCC Central Committee member explained that reproduction is still the most criticial aspect of the cattle sector, and that during the first quarter [of 1979], 34 percent of the cattle in the program were not inseminated and that 49 percent were heifers. Lastly, Pis Delgado pointed out that they have a program that is above the levels of earlier years, with a healthy stock that will permit production increases in the spring.

ANTONIO MACEO BRIGADE MEMBERS TO ARRIVE IN JULY

FL211312 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 21 Apr 79 FL

[Text] More than 250 members of the Antonio Maceo Brigade will come to Cuba in mid-July. Brigade members live in the United States, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Costa Rica, Venezuela and Spain. They will spend 1 month here.

Rafael Betancourt, member of the brigade's Executive Committee, told the national press that this figure is almost six times more than the number of members who participated in the first contingent that came to Cuba in December 1977 and January 1978. He added that this time almost 100 children between the ages of 7 and 14 will come to Cuba. They are sons of Cuban parents and will live with their Cuban brothers at the Jose Marti Pioneers City located on the outskirts of Havana City.

The brigade members will spend 2 weeks helping to build housing and other social projects for workers of the Ariguanabo textile mill. They will also visit schools, farms and historic and cultural places. During that time, they will meet with peasants, students and their families. The Antonio Maceo Brigade consists of progressive and conscientious youth of the Cuban community abroad. We are coming to Cuba to give our physical and moral support to the construction of the new socialist society. We come to learn the achievements of the revolution and carry the message of its triumphs to the Cuban community abroad and countries where we live, Rafael Betancourt said.

MORE PRISONERS RELEASED FOR EMIGRATION TO U.S.

PA212022 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Apr 79 PA

[Text] A new group of persons in prison for counterrevolutionary crimes will leave for the United States next week. They have been pardoned by the Cuban Government as part of an agreement with representatives of the Cuban community abroad. According to reports, approximately 200 persons, including prisoners and their relatives, will go to the city of Miami, United States.

On 6 April, 186 persons went to that city. Sixty-four of them were prisoners who had been pardoned by the Cuban Government as a result of the dialog held in Havana in November and December of last year between representatives of the Cuban community abroad and the Cuban Government. A total of 605 prisoners and former prisoners and 687 relatives have gone abroad following the agreements reached as a result of the dialog.

According to statements by leaders of the Committee of 75, the program has been moving slowly because of visa delays. The U.S. Government is entirely responsible for this. The Committee of 75 has insisted that the United States is morally obligated to enable the departure to the United States of those persons who, encouraged by imperialist policies, committed crimes against the security of the state in their fatherland.

MALMIERCA RECEIVES NEW SOVIET AMBASSADOR

FL211337 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1324 GMT 21 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has received his excellency Vitaliy Ivanovich Vorotnikov, who presented the credentials that accredit him USSR ambassador to our country.

After the ceremony, the Cuban foreign minister held a cordial meeting with the Soviet ambassador, during which they discussed matters concerning relations between the two countries and the current international situation.

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF CUBAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

FL231709 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Apr 79 FL

[Text] The 10th anniversary of the founding of the Cuban-Soviet Friendship Association has been commemorated in this capital by Cubans and Soviets, who emotionally listened to and applauded the letter sent on the occasion by Leonid Brezhnev, first secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Marlen Manasov, minister-counselor of the USSR Embassy in Cuba, read the letter.

Zoilo Marinello, president of the Cuban-Soviet Friendship Association, then expressed among other things that even though friendship between our peoples is very prominent, this does not mean that the association's activities have reached their peak; they should continue to deepen understanding of the USSR. Others attending the ceremony included Brig Gen Calixto Garcia and Jorge Enrique Mendoza, director of GRANMA, both vice presidents of the association.

RODRIGUEZ MEETS WITH BRITISH ECONOMIST

FL232152 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 23 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has met with eminent British economist (Joan Robinson) to hear her impressions of Cuba's socio-economic development since her last stay in our country in 1962.

Professor (Robinson) expressed satisfaction with the visits she was able to make, adding that she confirmed the magnitude of the achievements and objectives about which she was broadly briefed. The British scientist, who is author of numerous internationally known books and other works, toured social, economic and education projects and met with economists and university officials.

Jose Aranaburo, secretary of the National Peoples Government Assembly, briefed her on the functions of this government organ and its participation in the economic management system.

UK MINING LABOR DELEGATION ARRIVES IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA

FL231814 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Apr 79 FL

[Text] A delegation of British State Miners Trade Union labor leaders has toured several sites of historical and political interest in Santiago de Cuba. The delegation--which is headed by (Arthur Scarhill) and (Jack Taylor), president and vice president, respectively, of that country's trade union organization--had a fraternal meeting with Angel Albarellos, second secretary of the PCC in Santiago de Cuba Province. During their stay in Santiago de Cuba, the visitors toured the former Moncada barracks, the Siboney farm, the museum of the clandestine struggle and the Gran Piedra tourist center. Ricardo Martinez, first secretary of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers [CTC] in Santiago de Cuba Province, welcomed the UK workers delegation upon their arrival to the cradle of the revolution [Santiago de Cuba].

GRENADA

COARD HOLDS FINANCIAL TALKS WITH GUYANESE OFFICIALS

FL211535 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 18 Apr 79 p 3 FL

[Text] Grenada, Saint Georges, April 16 (CANA): Grenada's Finance Minister Bernard Coard is holding talks with two Guyanese finance experts. Aggrey King and Harold Wilkinson representing the Guyana Central Bank and Finance Ministry, respectively, are discussing the Grenada economy and the kinds of assistance which Guyana can offer.

Mr. Coard, who recently returned from a two-day visit to Guyana, said today that he discussed with Prime Minister Forbes Burnham the possibility of organising a pool of technical assistance for his country from several Caribbean Community (CARICOM) countries, including Guyana. The CARICOM Secretariat will be responsible for coordinating the pool which would be readily available for Grenada's use based on requests for assistance in whatever areas it may be needed.

The minister said that Mr. Burnham had agreed in principle to the idea, which would be further discussed with other CARICOM member countries. Through this pool, Mr Coard added, a greater measure of economic cooperation and assistance could be had for the entire region.

PLANS FOR NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE ANNOUNCED

FL232120 Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 19 Apr 79 p 2 FL

[Text] Georgetown, Wed--Finance Minister of Grenada's new People's Revolutionary Government Bernard Coard has spoken here of plans by the new Maurice Bishop administration to establish a national youth service in the spice island.

He explained that it would be a civilian organisation designed to equip the country's youth with skills and training over a period of years.

Plans are also being made to restructure the education programme, and unemployed youths who have passed in the general certificate of education at the advanced and ordinary levels will be employed as teacher aides, thereby reducing the ratio of one teacher to every 80 to 100 children.

Mr Coard spoke too of steps being taken to introduce "dual-purpose schools" using the same facility and the same plant to carry on primary school in the morning and secondary education in the afternoon.

The new finance minister made it clear that his government had no plans for setting up its own university. "It would be financial madness" for Grenada on its own to try and set up a university system catering for a whole range of different faculties. "We are quite content to remain within the University of the West Indies framework," Mr Coard told a high-level team of Guyanese officials who paid a visit to the island last week.

One of the major projects envisaged for the national youth service would be to utilise idle lands for agricultural purposes. A programme would be set up to diversify agriculture and produce more cash crops to satisfy the local market. (CANA)